

ART. XII. BRIEF NOTES ON THE FLORA OF NOVA SCOTIA.
PART I. BY HENRY HOW, D. C. L., *Professor of Chemistry and Natural History, University of King's College, Windsor, N. S.*

(Read April 8, 1872.)

THE botanical notices given by Professor Lawson at the last meeting of the Institute, reminded me that I have become acquainted with some facts respecting plants in different parts of the Province which should be placed on record; and I now proceed to offer notices of some of them to the members of the Institute.

1. A Fern hitherto unknown in the Dominion. At the meeting in question, Prof. Lawson announced the discovery of *Lastrea fragrans* at Cape Canso by Rev. E. H. Ball, and mentioned that this is an interesting addition to the list of hitherto known Nova Scotia ferns. The plant next to this in Gray's Manual of the Botany of Northern U. S. (second edition), viz., *Aspidium aculeatum*, I met with in 1870 in a wood on Marble Mountain, Bras d'Or Lake, Cape Breton, about 600 feet above the lake. I conclude that this fern has not as yet been mentioned as found in the Dominion, from its not being referred to in Prof. Lawson's Synopsis of Canadian Ferns and Filicoid Plants published in Edin. New Phil. Journal 1864, or in any subsequent memoir I have seen. Gray states (*loc. cit.*) that it is found on the mountains of New Hampshire, Vermont, N. New York and northward. It is a common fern in Great Britain, where it is now called *Polystichum aculeatum*. The mounted specimen, one of the two originally gathered by myself, I send to illustrate this note, is for subsequent presentation to the Provincial Museum as an addition to the Herbarium of Nova Scotia Plants procured from me by the Provincial Commissioners for the Paris Exposition of 1867.

2. *Anagallis arvensis*, Linn. This pretty little plant, well known in England as Poor Man's Weather Glass and Common Pimpernel, is European, but naturalized in America. I found it flowering in profusion near the Schoolhouse in Digby in 1868. I have not seen it elsewhere in the Province.

3. Hornbeam or Iron Wood. In 1868 a tree was pointed out to me close to Moose River, Annapolis county, near Clementsport, as almost the only one remaining of many "hornbeam-trees" formerly existing in the vicinity. The two species *Carpinus*, L., and *Ostrya*, Michel, are included under the term "hornbeam," but I cannot say which of these the tree belonged to. So far as I remember it was 30 or 40 feet high at least, so that its size would be that of the latter, but its growing on the side of a stream would accord better with the recorded habit of the former.

4. New station for *Osmorhiza brevistylis*, D. C. In the Herbarium above alluded to is a specimen of this plant from East Mountain, Onslow, Colchester county. I have since seen it growing on Marble Mountain, C. B., and at Redden's, near the bridge at Kentville, King's county.

5. *Actæa alba*. In Prof. Lawson's valuable Monograph of the Ranunculacæ of the Dominion of Canada, and adjacent parts of British America, read before the Institute in Dec. 1869, it is mentioned that *Actæa rubra* is widely spread throughout the whole Dominion, but *A. alba* is south western. Gray states that this variety is more common southward, extending to Virginia and Kentucky. It grows at three places in this vicinity, viz., Windsor Falls, Butler's Mountain, and Nesbit's Island.

6. Potentillas at Windsor and westward. At Windsor we have *P. Norvegica*, *P. Canadensis*, and *P. tridentata* in abundance, and more sparingly *P. anserina*, and *P. argentea*; this last I have only seen at one spot, but it is common westward, viz: at Kentville and Coldbrook, King's county, and on the road as far as Digby. *P. anserina* I found at the head of Bear River, Digby county.

7. *Dalibarda repens*. The Herbarium spoken of above contains a specimen of this plant from Wilmot, Annapolis county. In 1868 I saw the plant at Jauvet Comeau's, Bloomfield, Digby county.

8. *Nasturtium officinale*. Water Cress. This plant is mentioned by Gray as found in the United States "in brooks and ditches, rare, escaped from cultivation, naturalized from Europe." Last year I learned that it is plentiful in two brooks near the Three

Mile Plains, between Windsor (town) and Newport. Buckets of it were brought to an English colleague and myself, both of us being glad to renew our acquaintance with our pungent favorite of former days.

9. *Moneses uniflora* is mentioned in Prof. Lawson's elaborate Monograph of the Ericaceæ of the Dominion and Adjacent Parts of British America, (read before the Institute, 1871) as having been found at Mount Uniacke. I have met with it near Windsor and at Wilmot. We have here also *Pyrola elliptica*, and *P. secunda*. *P. rotundifolia* I have got near the Rectory at Wilmot.

10. *Echium vulgare*. Blue Weed. This European plant I have got in a field of Mr. McLean's, about 4 miles from New Glasgow, on the road to Merigonish, Pictou county. I was told that it grows only in that spot.

11. Of European plants observed near Sydney Mines, Cape Breton, may be mentioned *Urtica urens* which was said to have been introduced a little before 1859 when I saw it, *Lepidium rudérale* and *Euphrasia officinalis*.

12. *Viola rotundifolia*. This pretty plant, the one yellow violet, of which there is a specimen in the Herbarium before mentioned, I have only seen growing at the locality where that specimen was got, viz: at the Manganese Mine, in the woods at Teny Cape, Hants county.

ART. XIII. ON THE METEOROLOGY OF HALIFAX. BY FREDERICK ALLISON, ESQ.

(Read May 8, 1872.)

MY paper this evening opens with a brief sketch of the Meteorology of Halifax for 1871. The accompanying table of figures is rather more extended than in previous years; since I have now obtained accurate observations of most elements for nine years, and can therefore venture to calculate normals with a fair guarantee of precision. Certainly a more lengthy series will give results more